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Reports of conferences were completed by 30 April, and 1 May papers showed no evidence of the recent troubles.

On 27 April, Sovetskaya Estonia published a fairly revealing summary of the month's proceedings. Excerpts follow:

Party organizations of the republic are showing exceptional activity in discussing the decisions of the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia. Communists at uyezd and city conferences of active Party members and at conferences of primary Party organizations are unanimously adopting these decisions.

One of the greatest and most dangerous errors was the violation of the Lenin-Stalin principle of selection, assignment, and education of personnel by former leaders of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia and many local Party leaders. Political unscrupulousness permitted in the selection of personnel led to penetration into supervisory positions in certain establishments and organizations, enterprises, and kolkhozes of bourgeois nationalists and other politically foreign people. Instead of selecting personnel for their political and business-like qualities, appointments were made on the principle of personal acquaintance or family relationship.

The task of Party organizations of the republic consists in decisively correcting the errors and shortcomings in personnel work, since the personnel problem is one of the sharpest and most important problems of Party policy and practice. The successful construction of Communism depends chiefly on cadres.

To successfully carry out this task, there must be a thorough and systematic purge of persons who do not merit political confidence from all institutions, enterprises, and kolkhozes.

At these conferences Communists have given many examples of the corrupt liberalism of certain leaders who tried to protect worthless people from exposure and criticism. Workers who failed at one job were transferred to more responsible work in another place. This type of liberalism flourished especially in the Ministries of Health, Justice, Trade, and Education. Ovsyanikov, former secretary of the Valga Uyezd Party Committee, and certain other leaders also admitted similar practices.

Personnel work in a national republic requires that Party organizations give maximum attention to training of cadres from among local nationals.

Many Estonian ministries and enterprises were cited at uyezd Party conferences for poor operations and for employing bourgeois nationalists, kulaks, and other undesirable personnel.

The following ministries of the Estonian SSR were criticized: Agriculture, Cinematography, Education, Forestry, Food Industry, Health, Local Industry, Shale-Chemical Industry, Social Security, Timber and Paper Industry, and Trade. The ministers, deputy ministers, and other personnel were also censured.

Trade, public health, and social security organizations were hit especially hard, as was the Estonian Republic Union of Consumer Societies.

Court and investigation agencies also came in for their share of the blame.

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Educational (including Party) and cultural organizations were also attacked, especially the Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR and Tartu University.

UYEZD PARTY GROUPS CONFERENCE

Active Party members held 2- and 3-day conferences in the larger cities and uyezd centers to discuss the results of the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, which reviewed the TsK VKP(b) decree "On the Errors and Shortcomings in the Work of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia." Sovetskaya Estoniya carried summaries of conferences in all 13 uyezds, as well as in the cities of Narva and Tartu. The conferences took place during the second half of April, although, in most cases, exact dates were not given.

The meetings all followed the same pattern. The chief speakers at many of the conferences were members of the Estonian Party Central Committee. The speakers all thanked the TsK VKP(b) and Comrade Stalin for their help in exposing the kulaks and bourgeois nationalists. The main speakers and various others spoke generally on the errors and shortcomings in the work of Party and government organizations and then gave specific examples of these. The chief criticisms were: harboring bourgeois nationalist, kulak, and other inimical elements; poor selection, assignment, and training of Party personnel; unsatisfactory development of criticism and self-criticism and hushing up of criticism; the low level of Party education, etc. General discussion and debate followed the speeches. All conferences ended with a recognition of the errors and shortcomings in the work of the particular uyezd or city Party committee, primary Party organizations, uyezd and city soviet executive committees, and other organizations, and a pledge to improve their work.

Summaries of the 13 uyezd and two city conferences of active Party members follow:

Khar'yu Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 21 Apr 50)

Active Party members of Khar'yu Uyezd recently held a conference in Tallin to discuss the results of the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia. There was sharp criticism and self-criticism at the conference. Kel'berg, secretary of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, discussed the TsK VKP(b) decree "On Mistakes and Shortcomings in the Work of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia" and the decisions of the Eighth Plenum concerning this problem. Kel'berg pointed out that these mistakes and shortcomings were reflected in the work of the Party, soviet, and economic organizations of Khar'yu Uyezd.

The speaker produced many concrete examples of kulak penetration into kolkhozes. Kulak elements consistently violated the Agricultural Artel Statutes, disrupted the socialization of kolkhoz workers' property, and embezzled socialist public property. Certain leading workers of the Council of Ministers Estonian SSR protected the kulaks, often included kulaks among the middle peasants, and permitted them to get into leading positions in kolkhozes. The Khar'yu Uyezd Party Committee is largely to blame for having left the decision of this very important problem to the Uyezd Soviet Executive Committee and then failing to check its work thoroughly.

Sal'k, secretary of the Khar'ku Volost' Party Committee, disclosed the protection of bourgeois nationalists in the Ministry of Trade Estonian SSR by Minister of Trade Khansen and his deputies, including Martna.

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Directors of the republic Public Prosecutor's office, particularly former Assistant Prosecutor Udras, who failed to maintain class vigilance and did not permit criticism, were criticized sharply.

It was also pointed out that Myae, present Deputy Minister of Agriculture Estonian SSR, as chairman of the Khar'yu Uyezd Soviet Executive Committee, often protected kulak elements. [Myae had formerly been Minister of Agriculture Estonian SSR.]

Workers in the Ministry of State Farms Estonian SSR, particularly Minister Mytus, were censured for not permitting criticism. The apparatus of the ministry is filled with inimical elements, but no measures have been taken to purge them. After Pravda approved the line that the production brigade was to replace the squad in agriculture, Khar'yu Uyezd organizations for a long time did not take measures to correct this error in the kolkhozes.

The Uyezd Party Committee and primary organizations were criticized for the weakening of political vigilance over Party membership.

Tartu City (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 25 Apr 50)

Active Party members in Tartu City held a 3-day conference to discuss the decree of the Eighth Plenum. Leede, secretary of the Tartu City Committee of the KP(b) of Estonia, spoke on "The Results of the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia and Tasks of the City Party Organization."

Bolshevik criticism and self-criticism were developed more broadly than ever before at a meeting of active Party members, and without regard for personalities. The Tartu conference was carried out on a high ideological and political level, with a great deal of activity on the part of those participating. Thirty-four comrades made speeches and 69 took part in the debates.

Leede, in his report, revealed the activities of the bourgeois nationalists who have made their way into the educational institutions of Tartu. The bourgeois nationalists Kruus, Andrezen, and others got their proteges and adherents Prinka, Kleys, Moora, Val'des, and others, into leading positions in Tartu University. Many of them, without basis, adopted academic degrees and titles (Mayste-Khallep, Elango, and others). Between 1944 and 1948, 42 degrees of doctor of sciences and 58 degrees of candidate in sciences were granted without review of scientific and dissertation works, many of which had been written in bourgeois Estonia, even during the German occupation. They created impossible conditions for those whom the Ministry of Higher Education USSR sent to the university for work. Doctor of Veterinary Sciences Loka, an old Party member and author of many textbooks, was persecuted and forced to leave Tartu.

Leede stated further that criticism and self-criticism are still poorly developed in several primary Party organizations in the city. This tried weapon of the Bolshevik Party is not being used in the Party organization of the Academy of Sciences.

Addressing criticism at lower Party organizations and individual Communists, Leede, however, forgot self-criticism. The debate which followed showed that in the work of the Tartu City Party Committee there had been cases of hushing up self-criticism. Teamwork in the work of the bureau of the city Party committee was lacking, and secretaries rarely visited primary Party organizations.

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The conference devoted considerable attention to educational institutions -- the Tartu Affiliate of the Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR, Tartu State University, and others. Bill', assistant secretary of the Party organization at the University, Kal'yu, secretary of the Tartu City Committee, Antons, prorektor of Tartu University, and other members of the faculty spoke on the inimical activities of bourgeois nationalists at Tartu State University. Under the immediate direction of Andrezen and Kruus, a plan to retain bourgeois nationalist personnel with the aim of ultimately restoring capitalism was carried out in the university in 1940 - 1941. This work was continued after the liberation of Estonia in 1944.

The Arts Institute also was sharply criticized for formalism and lack of proper Bolshevik orientation.

Two Komsomol secretaries at Tartu University revealed that the work of the university's Komsomol organization was poor. There were many bad elements in the ranks of the Komsomol, including children of kulaks and enemies of the people. The Tartu City Committee of the Komsomol tolerated this mistake, thus slowing the process of purging the university's Komsomol organization of hostile elements. One of the secretaries claimed that the Komsomol organization needed a great deal of help, which the Tartu Party Committee was not rendering. He concluded that it was also necessary to give some attention to teaching the Russian language in the university. The entire Russian-language faculty is working unsatisfactorily and there is no control over the teaching of this extremely important subject.

Serious shortcomings were revealed in the work of the city Party committee. The committee was criticised for lack of attention to antireligious propaganda and selection of personnel in the schools. Sisko, secretary of the Tartu City Committee, was censured for not permitting criticism and self-criticism.

The Tartu Affiliate of the Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR has also been infiltrated by bourgeois nationalists, but the Party organization is doing nothing to combat them. The Biology Institute is not teaching Michurin science. Scientific personnel of the affiliate have been considerably tainted.

Bourgeois nationalists have sabotaged scientific work. In 5 years not one scientific work by an Estonian scientist has appeared in the Soviet press.

The Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR was also criticized in Sovetskaya Estonia on 20 April. It was claimed that there were shortcomings in the work of nearly all of the academy's institutes. Some of the more significant criticisms are given below:

Many scientific-research institutes of the Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR are removed from reality and are not aiding factories, plants, kolkhozes, and sovkhoses in improving their work.

The Institute of Architecture and Construction of the academy, for example, headed by Professor Madisson, has dealt neither with actual construction problems nor with problems of architecture.

The Institute of Economics and Law is also far removed from production and actual life. The institute does not even have an industrial sector, and none of its associates are aiding the republic's enterprises.

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The Institute of Industrial Problems has been working for many years on obtaining phenoplastic from shale phenols. Local industrial enterprises began to use this innovation at the beginning of last year, but no practical results were obtained, because scientific workers at the institute did not find time to give the plants the technical specifications and instructions for the process. This indicates how far removed the institute's workers are from the practical work of the enterprise.

The Institute of Agriculture has been slow to propagate the experience of the Leningrad Institute of Mechanization of Agriculture in enriching seeds with malt before sowing, which increased the harvest 4-5 centners per hectare.

Tartu Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 25 Apr 50)

Lentsman, head of the Propaganda and Agitation Section, TsK KP(b) of Estonia, delivered the main speech at a meeting of Tartu Uyezd active Party members which discussed the Eighth Plenum.

Participants in the conference criticized republic organizations and leaders of the Tartu Uyezd Party and Executive Committees and other uyezd agencies for relaxing their vigilance in carrying out the class line and for the weak campaign against kulaks and bourgeois-nationalist elements. Many examples of this were given. Kulaks even penetrated some sovkhozes.

Speakers discussed the Uyezd Party Committee's errors in selecting personnel. The trade network and the uyezd health and education departments were also criticized. Kulaks and bourgeois nationalists got into responsible positions in several establishments and some even into the Party.

Forty-three persons participated in the debate which followed the speeches.

Narva City (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 27 Apr 50)

Active Party members of Narva met recently to discuss the results of the Eighth Plenum. Yerebin, secretary of the Narva City Party Committee, described how bourgeois nationalists had slowed high-speed restoration of large industrial centers of the republic, especially Narva, and hindered fulfillment of the USSR government's 1945 decision to restore the city.

For 5 years the Republic Administration for Architectural Affairs, headed by Arman, shelved compilation of a general plan, and the Council of Ministers Estonian SSR put up with this procrastination.

Covering up the lack of a general plan, hostile elements made their way into various departments and ministries of the republic and disrupted housing and hospital construction in Narva as well as developments of the local and food industries.

Up to 1949 there was no housing construction. In the past year, a city construction trust was established, but it is poorly equipped and lacks sufficient trained personnel. Many workers' and employees' families are still living in temporary dwellings.

Lyuks, Minister of the Food Industry Estonian SSR, was exposed for obstructing the development of all branches of the food industry.

Raud, Minister of Education Estonian SSR, it was noted, had not been giving enough attention to workers' needs.

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Khansen, Minister of Trade Estonian SSR, had done no more for Narva workers. The city has no vegetables, goods assortment is poor, and people's needs are not being satisfied. Similar neglect of workers' needs was noted on the part of the Ministries of Health and Local Industry and by industrial cooperatives of the Estonian SSR.

Yeremin also criticized the Council of Trade Unions Estonian SSR.

The Ministry of Agriculture was criticized for poor direction of kol-khozes in Yykhiv Uyezd.

The Estonian Railroad was criticized for employing undesirable personnel and violations of labor discipline by foreign elements which infiltrated railroad transport.

Dolgoplov, secretary of the Narva City Party Committee, criticized the work of the Propaganda and Agitation Section of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia.

Lyaane Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 29 Apr 50)

Active Party members of Lyaane Uyezd held a conference on 19 - 20 April in Khapsalu to discuss the work of the Eighth Plenum. Lentsman, member of the Propaganda and Agitation Section, TsK KP(b) of Estonia, who also appeared at the Tartu Uyezd meeting, spoke. He emphasized the fact that the lack of necessary drive against bourgeois nationalism had led to penetration of many kol-khozes, enterprises, and establishments of the uyezd by kulaks and other anticlass elements. In kol-khozes they violated the Agricultural Artel Statutes, slowed socialization of cattle and other property, and corrupted labor discipline.

This situation developed because Pruks, formerly first secretary of the Uyezd Party Committee, utilizing the protection of former leaders of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, did not wage a campaign against bourgeois nationalists and even aided them in their inimical activities.

Pruks created an intolerant atmosphere of officiousness, servility, and hushing up of criticism. He persecuted honest Communists who wanted to expose bourgeois nationalists and kulaks.

Nazarov, propagandist of the Uyezd Party Committee, noted in his speech that Pruks had copied the style of operation of the former leaders of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia.

Many speakers gave serious attention to gross shortcomings and errors in carrying out the class line in rural areas. Myae, formerly Minister /now Deputy Minister/ of Agriculture Estonian SSR, pigeonholed lists of kulaks over a 6-month period, and only after urgent demands of uyezd workers did he find time to go out into the uyezd where the kulaks had transferred themselves to the category of middle peasants.

Cases were cited of one Soviet Army desert and another German collaborator being taken into the Party, indicating insufficient revolutionary vigilance.

Kikkas, secretary of the Lyaane Uyezd Party Committee, noted that Party organizations of the uyezd, including the uyezd committee, were not giving enough attention to attracting individual peasants into kol-khozes.

The uyezd Public Prosecutor's office was also criticized, especially Neudov, the Public Prosecutor. In his speech, Neudov accepted the criticism as correct, but failed to make the necessary political evaluation of his errors.

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Mass-political and ideological work was at a low level in the uyezd. The uyezd newspaper was criticized for employing kulaks and bourgeois nationalists. The newspaper Sovetskaya Estoniya was criticized for its poor campaign for accuracy and for permitting perversion of facts.

There was sharp criticism and self-criticism at the conference. Thirty-seven Communists spoke and 54 took part in the debate.

Pyarnu Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 25 Apr 50)

Active Party members of Pyarnu Uyezd held a 2-day conference on 17 - 18 April to discuss the decree of the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia.

It was noted first of all that the drive against bourgeois-nationalist, kulak, and other hostile elements did not have sufficient force. These elements have ignored the Stakhanovite movement in the republic, retarded the introduction of new socialist forms and work methods, and taken a disdainful attitude toward Soviet technology. In rural areas bourgeois nationalists have tried to prevent collectivization and have instead set up the lowest forms of peasant cooperation -- agricultural cooperatives, machine and dairy associations, etc. -- which, in many cases, are under kulak control.

The Pyarnu Uyezd Party Committee was also criticized for its poor liaison with, and unsatisfactory direction of, primary Party organizations, resulting in weakened Party work in many of the rayons.

Yarva Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 25 Apr 50)

The conference of Yarva Uyezd active Party members which discussed the results of the Eighth Plenum was carried on in good Bolshevik style, with a high level of criticism and self-criticism. Myurisepp, member of the Bureau of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia and Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Estonian SSR, delivered the main address.

It was pointed out that bourgeois-nationalist elements were responsible for hindering the organizational and economic growth of new kolkhozes. They were also accused of having penetrated the ideological front.

Party and Komsomol organizations, it was reported, have not been sufficiently active.

Vil'yandi Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 26 Apr 50)

Yanus, secretary of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, spoke at the 2-day conference of Vil'yandi Uyezd active Party members which discussed the Eighth Plenum. He pointed out many soviet, cooperative, and economic organizations of the uyezd which were failing to judge their personnel correctively and also failing to give sufficient direction to the many workers and kolkhoz personnel.

Yanus gave examples of kulaks and bourgeois-nationalists infiltrating top positions in kolkhozes, disrupting inculcation of the latest Soviet agricultural techniques and contributing to violations of the Agricultural Artel Statutes. Local Party organizations had not worked satisfactorily to strengthen kolkhozes.

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Yanus noted that the reason for the mistakes permitted in the uyezd Party organization was the unsatisfactory level of criticism and self-criticism.

Thirty communists participated in the debate on Yanus's speech.

Vyru Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 26 Apr 50)

A conference of active Party members of Vyru Uyezd heard and discussed the report of Kuzik, secretary of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, on the results of the Eighth Plenum.

Serious shortcomings and errors noted in the leadership of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia were also reflected in the work of Uyezd Party organizations. For this reason, the work of local and higher Party, soviet, and other organizations was subjected to severe criticism in Kuzik's report and in the discussion which followed.

Kuzik and other speakers emphasized the fact that a most serious shortcoming in the work of party organizations is the lack of necessary political vigilance. This made it possible for kulak-nationalist and other foreign elements to penetrate the government apparatus, schools, sovkhoses, and kol-khoses, where they were able to do considerable damage to economic and cultural construction.

The Uyezd Party Committee was accused of failing to eliminate kulaks and speed collectivization. In Misso Volost', for example, only 30 percent of peasant households were collectivized. Shturm, secretary of the Vyru Uyezd Party Committee, revealed that since 15 March 1949, 54 kulak households had been exposed.

Thirty-five communists took part in the discussion which followed the speeches.

Yykhiv Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 27 Apr 50)

Yykhiv Uyezd active Party members met on 18 - 20 April. Paas, member of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, spoke on the results of the Eighth Plenum.

All of the Communists who spoke emphasized the fact that the TsK VKP(b) had acted correctly and in good time in disclosing shortcomings in the work of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia.

Several of the comrades present pointed out the lack of criticism in the speech of the main speaker, Paas, who is also Public Prosecutor of the Estonian SSR. Paas, in his activities as Public Prosecutor, did not require that his subordinates bring to immediate trial all kulak and bourgeois-national elements.

Freyberg, Deputy Minister of the Shale-Chemical Industry, as well as the Heavy Industry Section of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, were criticized for indiscriminate selection of personnel. The style of leadership of industry by the Uyezd Party Committee and the Heavy Industry Section of the Central Committee was held to be incorrect. Leaders rarely visited the enterprises, and their direction was superficial.

Many speakers pointed out shortcomings and errors in the direction of agriculture. Kolkhoz boundaries are still not permanently fixed, and it is not known where to construct kolkhoz villages. There are too often farmsteads instead of large kolkhoses. Agricultural Artel Statutes are violated.

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The conference expected Kivilo, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Yykhiv Uyezd Soviet of Workers' Deputies, and others to clarify the status of kolkhoz preparations for spring sowing. But Kivilo spoke neither on this nor on the work of the Executive Committee in organizational and economic strengthening of kolkhozes and purging kulak and bourgeois-nationalist elements.

Other comrades addressed some criticisms to the Ministries of Health, Social Security, and Education, as well as to the Propaganda and Agitation Section of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, on the matter of improving the staff of the uyezd newspaper.

Valga Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Apr 50)

A recent conference of Valga Uyezd active Party members heard and discussed the report of Kel'berg, secretary of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, on the results of the Eighth Plenum. Kel'berg pointed out that the TsK VKP(b) decree had been of great help and was further evidence of the constant care and attention on the part of the TsK VKP(b) to the young republic.

Kel'berg pointed out errors and shortcomings in the Valga Uyezd Party Committee's work, and particularly that of the former first secretary, Ovsyannikov, who was removed by the Bureau of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia after the Eighth Plenum. Ovsyannikov had oriented the Party organization toward peaceful coexistence with bourgeois nationalists and kulaks.

Kel'berg also noted shortcomings in ideological work in the uyezd, both in schools and in the Party education system.

Thirty-two Communists participated in the discussion of Kel'berg's report.

Stepanov, head of the Party, Trade-union, and Komsomol Organizations Section of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, criticized the Valga Uyezd Party and Executive Committees for poor supervision of spring sowing.

Ovsyannikov's speech did not satisfy the participants at the conference; he failed to give a principled evaluation of his errors and conduct.

Viru Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Apr 50)

Ayo, secretary of the Viru Uyezd Committee of the KP(b) of Estonia, spoke at the recent meeting of Viru Uyezd active Party members. Ayo was elected to the TsK KP(b) of Estonia on 25 December 1948 at the Fifth Conference of the KP(b) of Estonia. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48).⁷

There was considerable criticism and many examples of leading workers who relaxed their class vigilance and permitted foreign elements to infiltrate various organizations.

The Ministry of Trade Estonian SSR and Minister of Trade Khansen were criticized severely for extremely superficial supervision of local trade organizations.

The Uyezd Party committee was censured for unsatisfactory work with teachers. Politically untrustworthy persons were employed in schools, and many of them turned out to be bourgeois nationalists.

Communists at the Viru conference censured the Uyezd Party and Executive Committees, as well as individual Party and soviet workers, for poor supervision of primary Party organizations and local soviet institutions.

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Yygeva Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 29 Apr 50)

Kuz'min, secretary of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, spoke on the results of the Eighth Plenum before the conference of Yygeva Uyezd active Party members.

It was noted that many of the errors indicated in the decision of the Eighth Plenum applied to Yygeva Uyezd. The campaign against bourgeois nationalists and kulaks was ineffectual, necessary vigilance in selection and assignment of personnel was lacking, criticism and self-criticism were not developed sufficiently, and criticism on the part of individual leaders was hushed up.

The majority of speakers turned their attention to errors and shortcomings in carrying out the class line in rural areas. Kulaks and bourgeois nationalists had gotten into leading positions in kolkhozes, schools, etc.

Kyutt, secretary of the Yygeva Uyezd Party Committee, noted that the uyezd Party organization was training personnel poorly. Courses for kolkhoz specialists, chairmen, and brigade leaders were far from filled. Party seminars for workers were also criticized.

Lyatte, secretary of the Yygeva Uyezd Party Committee, was censured for poor administration. Individual Uyezd Party and Executive Committee workers were accused of being intolerant of criticism and suppressing it.

Saare Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 30 Apr 50)

Active Party members of Saare Uyezd who met recently in Kuressaare heard and discussed a report on the decisions of the Eighth Plenum presented by Shishkin, candidate for membership in the TsK KP(b) of Estonia.

The conference unanimously approved these decisions and noted that the errors and shortcomings disclosed in the work of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia were equally applicable in the work of the Saare Uyezd Party Committee. The Bureau of the Uyezd Party Committee had failed to act upon Communists' criticism and to organize a decisive campaign against bourgeois-nationalist and kulak elements.

It was revealed that a group of bourgeois nationalists who direct the uyezd hired former capitalists and priests to take care of all cultural and educational work on the island. Local Party and soviet leaders took no measures to counteract the situation, nor did the Bureau of the Uyezd Party Committee and its propaganda and agitation section.

The Uyezd Party Committee was criticized for complete lack of principle in not purging the finance section of the Uyezd Executive Committee of German collaborators and other politically undesirable people.

The matter of Party membership on the uyezd and volost' levels was being handled unsatisfactorily. Political education was at a low level.

It was noted that the uyezd Party organization had succeeded in getting 84 percent of all peasant households in the uyezd into kolkhozes, but was not giving enough attention to political and organizational strengthening of the new kolkhozes. In many of these, property is still not fully socialized and there are violations of labor discipline and income distribution.

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Khiyu Uyezd (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 30 Apr 50)

Lombak, member of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia, reported on the results of the Eighth Plenum to the 2-day conference of active Party members of Khiyu Uyezd.

Communists who spoke disclosed a number of serious shortcomings and errors in the work of the uyezd Party and soviet organizations and individual leaders. Examples were given of bureaucracy in the Uyezd Party Committee. The Party committee was censured for entrusting the directing of the uyezd newspaper to a former fascist army officer.

The Uyezd Soviet Executive Committee was criticized for bureaucracy and shouting down criticism.

The Ministry of Agriculture was accused of failing to take measures to purge foreign elements.

CRITICISM AND CHANGES OF PERSONNEL

Many changes in personnel in the Estonian SSR were noted in the early months of 1950. The following list of Party and government officials indicates changes in their positions and/or criticism of their work, as well as other information pertinent to the discussion of the All-Union Central Committee's criticism of Party work in the Estonian SSR.

Boytsov, Konstantin Pavlovich; relieved as Deputy Chairman, Council of Ministers, Estonian SSR, on 19 April 1950. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Apr 50)

Ioer (Jöer), A. V.; relieved as Minister of Justice, Estonian SSR, on 6 February 1950. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 7 Feb 50)

Karotamm, Nikolay G.; first secretary, KP(b) of Estonia; relieved of duties. Received political training in USSR and returned to Estonia in 1940 (Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 944, 6 May 50). Member of Central Committee, KP(b) of Estonia and its Bureau, as well as first secretary of KP(b) of Estonia (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48). Elected to the Soviet of the Union, Supreme Soviet USSR, 12 March 1950.

Keerdo, Paul' Robertovich; Minister of Finance, Estonian SSR, and member of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia; died 6 January 1950. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 8 Jan 50)

Khansen, A. G.; Minister of Trade, Estonian SSR; criticized by several uyezd Party conferences for extremely superficial supervision of activities of local trade organizations. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Apr 50)

Kruus, Hans; relieved as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Estonian SSR (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 8 Mar 50). Involved in a bourgeois-nationalist plot to restore capitalism in Estonia (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 25 Apr 50). Fell into disgrace and removed as Minister of Foreign Affairs and President, Academy of Sciences Estonian SSR. Said to have based the Bolshevik falsification of Estonian history on his own writings and not on the works of Russian authors. Formerly professor of history, Tartu University. (Latvju Vards /anti-Soviet, Latvian-language, weekly newspaper, published in Stockholm, 27 Apr 50)

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- Kumm, Boris G.; relieved as Minister of State Security, Estonian SSR, 19 February 1950; replaced by a Russian, V. I. Moskalenko (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Feb 50). Kumm is a member of the Communist old guard which was active in Estonia when that country was still independent. He became Minister of State Security in 1940 and, together with the deputy minister, a Russian who actually functioned as chief, played an important part in the mass deportations and arrests which took place at that time (Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 944, 6 May 50). Elected to Central Committee of KP(b) of Estonia and its Bureau at Fifth Party Congress (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48).
- Laura, G.; Minister of Timber and Paper Industry, Estonian SSR; his ministry criticized at meeting of Vil'yandi Uyezd Communists for slow progress on reconstruction of Vil'yandi Match Factory; Laura admitted that the ministry was at fault and promised to take measures to correct errors and shortcomings (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 26 Apr 50). Candidate for membership in TsK KP(b) of Estonia (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48).
- Lyuis; former Minister of the Food Industry, Estonian SSR; exposed as a bourgeois nationalist for obstructing development of all branches of the food industry. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 27 Apr 50)
- Moskalenko, Valentin Ivanovich; replaced Kumm as Minister of State Security, Estonian SSR (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Feb 50). The purge in Estonia has been handled by Moskalenko, the Russian chekist, who was formerly well known for his ruthless activities during the Ukrainian farm collectivization period (Latvju Vards /anti-Soviet, Latvian-language, weekly newspaper, published in Stockholm/, 27 Apr 50). Elected to the Soviet of Nationalists, Supreme Soviet USSR, 12 March 1950.
- Myae; former Minister of Agriculture, Estonian SSR, now Deputy Minister; pigeon-holed a list of kulaks instead of taking action on them. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 29 Apr 50)
- Negus, A.; replaced D. M. Rudnev as editor of Sovetskaya Estoniya on 7 February 1950; Negus listed as assistant responsible editor from 7 February through 25 March, but in next available issue of newspaper, 20 April, S. I. Semin was listed as responsible editor.
- Ovsyannikov; removed as first secretary of Valga Uyezd Party Committee by Bureau of TsK KP(b) of Estonia after the Eighth Plenum of the TsK KP(b) of Estonia. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Apr 50)
- Pruks; former first secretary, Lyaane Uyezd Committee of the KP(b) of Estonia. Utilizing protection of former leaders of TsK KP(b) of Estonia, he failed to wage campaign against bourgeois nationalists and even aided them in their inimical activities (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 29 Apr 50). Referred to as "former secretary" as early as 16 February 1950 in Sovetskaya Estoniya.
- Pyall' (Päll), Eduard N.; relieved as chairman, Supreme Soviet, Estonian SSR. Received political training in USSR and sent back to Estonia in 1940 (Neue Zuercher Zeitung, No 944, 6 May 50). Member of Central Committee of KP(b) of Estonia and its Bureau (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48).
- Ristmyagi (Ristmgi), Ernst V.; relieved of responsibilities as Minister of Local Industry in connection with appointment as permanent representative of the Council of Ministers of the Estonian SSR to the Council of Ministers USSR (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 49). Head of a commission of the Council of Ministers Estonian SSR; accused of harboring kulaks (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 26 Apr 50). Member of Central Committee of the KP(b) of Estonia (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Dec 48).

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Rudnev, D. M.; editor of Sovetskaya Estoniya; replaced 7 February 1950 by A. Negus. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 7 Feb 50)

Semin, S. I.; new editor of Sovetskaya Estoniya. A. Negus listed as assistant responsible editor through 25 March. In next available issue, 20 April, Semin listed as responsible editor. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 20 Apr 50)

Stokberg, Rudolf; died 14 February 1950. Had been deputy chairman of State Planning Committee, Estonian SSR since 1946. Minister of Local Industry, Estonian SSR, 1944 - 1946. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 15 Feb 50)

Vaarandi; formerly Deputy Chairman, Council of Ministers, Estonian SSR; accused of having kulak connections. (Sovetskaya Estoniya, 28 Apr 50)

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